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RAYNER'S

BERRY BOOK

for 1935

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Profit · · Producing Plants · ·

Chesapeake
King of Late Berries
See Page 16

Dorsett
Premier's Great Rival
See Page 8

RAYNER BROTHERS - Salisbury, Maryland

Your Confidence - Our Greatest Asset

This Berry Book is sent to you in the hope and with the aim that your berry plant orders may be sent to us. However, to attain this end there is one thing that is essential. Your confidence in us. You must have confidence that our variety descriptions are really accurate and dependable, that the information given herein is given in the spirit of honesty and good fellowship and is not just high pressure sales talk with no aim other than to get your order.

Every variety description is just as we have found the variety here, at the several experiment Stations and in the fields of certain of our customers, whom we visit each year, throughout Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. If a variety has weak points we know it is our duty to say so. If we have found it good, it is again our duty to endorse it and to push it hard. There is nothing more discouraging than to produce a crop of berries only to find them unsuited to your particular requirements or that they have been replaced by some better variety. If we have not fruited a variety ourselves we say so and give the results of our observations and the information we have regarding it, from reliable sources.

You must have confidence too, that the plants we will send you will be strong and well rooted, true to name and properly packed to reach you in good growing condition, that we have the ability and the organization to get your order out promptly and not late, after the best planting time is over. That should any misunderstanding occur, we will be ready and willing to do our full share to make adjustment to our mutual satisfaction.

To merit and to hold your confidence we pledge: To give you every good plant we can for your money that are true to name and satisfactory in every way, that we will make shipment promptly at the time you specify, of fresh dug plants that are thoroughly cleaned, evenly bunched and rigidly graded. Plants that will please you fully.

We have never felt that a transaction between a customer and ourselves was completed when the plants were delivered to him, we are just as interested in his producing a profitable crop of berries as we are in receiving his order. For your success is our success and in working for your best interests we are also working for our own.

If there are any questions you may wish to discuss we will be only too glad to hear from you, if you have found that a variety is ideal in your section we would be glad to have you tell us, or if one is poor we should like to know that too so that we may pass the information on. We invite your suggestions that may aid us to better serve you.

We have tried to embody in this Berry Book complete cultural and sales methods that will aid you in getting the maximum of pleasure and profit from your berries, to hold to absolute facts in all our statements and to omit all high pressure sales talk that has no value other than filling space. We hope we have succeeded in reaching this end and that this book will be of real value to you in getting the most from your berries.

Our plants are good, we know this, and we are so sure they will please you, we Guarantee 100% SATISFACTION or YOUR MONEY BACK. Fair enough isn't it? We are looking forward, anxiously, to the opportunity of serving you and we will do our best to handle your orders in such a manner that we may merit a continuance of your confidence and patronage.

We wish you and yours both health and happiness during the coming year and a full measure of all those things that make life worthwhile.

Yours very truly,

RAYNER BROTHERS

This view shows a portion of a field of plants which will be dug to fill this season's orders. These are good plants. Better cannot be grown. Handled according to our rules (see page 4) such plants will go a long way towards making your berry enterprise a success.

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Strawberries - Their Value as a Cash Crop

We are not going to waste this space on a lot of stories of how you can make $1,500 or $2,000 from an acre of strawberries or build a new house or barn from the profits of two or three thousand plants but we are going to try to give a fair idea of how much you may expect and of the best ways to get the most from your berries.

Taken year after year no one disputes the fact that Strawberries are one of the most, if not the most profitable crop grown. Yet, some years and under some conditions they show little or no profit, however, this is also true of any crop you may plant and by following good cultural and marketing methods, these low profit years can be almost eliminated. The profit you may normally expect is high in comparison with any other crop and we believe we are conservative in placing a normal profit at $300.00 per acre. Under favorable conditions profits quite often run up to $1,000.00 or even more per acre. This is higher than the average but is a good mark to try for.

There are two points that make Strawberries an ideal cash crop. First, they are the first fruit harvested in the summer, the returns coming in right when cash is exceptionally desirable to aid in carrying out other farm projects. Second, the amount of cash required to produce a crop of berries is very small in comparison to any other fruit crop and you do not have to wait several years for them to begin fruiting. Then too, only a small amount of ground is necessary to have a berry field that will show quite large returns. We have found that growers who have five acres or less and who give their plants proper care and market wisely, receive far greater returns than those who have larger acreage not properly cared for. Therefore, do not plant more than you can handle to good advantage. Arithmetic does not apply to berry growing, if you should make $1,000 from two acres it doesn't mean that you would make $10,000 from twenty acres.

There are two ways in which any enterprise may reach success, first by producing its product for less than the average, and second, by producing a better quality than the average. In berry growing this means growing more berries than your neighbor or growing better berries, growing cost being equal. We believe the latter course is the better one because quality can be controlled while production depends largely on weather conditions. Following are some suggestions on the production of high quality fruit.

1. Plant only such varieties as produce firm, attractive fruit of high dessert quality, which are adapted to your locality and market.

2. Keep the berries closely picked so that they do not become too over-ripe and in so doing lose their quality and appearance.

3. Care in picking and handling will aid greatly in retaining the high quality of the fruit. This should receive special attention when the berries are to be shipped long distances or are to be kept for two or three days. Berries that are bruised or crushed will often mold quickly while fruit handled carefully will keep in good condition for as long as a week. The berries should be kept as cool as possible and should not be permitted to stand in the sun any longer than is absolutely necessary.

4. Careful grading will also aid greatly in maintaining high quality. All decayed and imperfect fruit should be discarded and any undersized berries packed separately.

5. Mulching will aid greatly in keeping the berries clean during a rain and also keep the ground cool and moist. This practice is a great aid in producing high quality fruit.

6. Always use new or clean packages, these greatly enhance the appearance of the fruit and make selling much easier. Dark, dirty crates and baskets should never be used. Quite often dark, unattractive packages will detract twice as much from the selling price as new containers would have cost.

7. Have your baskets well filled even if you only put 24 quarts in a 32 quart crate. Everyone likes good measure, give it to them, it PAYS.

Marketing—This should receive very careful consideration as it is one of the major items in relation to your profit. Of course every grower must work out his marketing method to meet his or her particular requirements, however, the method used should be the one that will realize the very best price for the crop. Should you have a nearby market and your acreage is not too large, by all means retail your berries, in this way yau save the transportation costs and the middleman's profit goes into your own pocket. These are two large items and should not be expended unless no other course is available. Of course, with a large acreage or when markets are at considerable distance the large wholesale markets must be used.

If you are located close to a well travelled highway, a roadside stand should solve your marketing problem nicely as you will be able to dispose of your berries and some other products at good prices and eliminate the trouble and expense of hauling to some nearby city or town. Then there are grocery stores, hotels, and your own private customers, any or all of these may fit into your marketing program. Whatever method you decide on bear in mind that It Pays to Advertise. Grade your berries carefully. Give good full measure, grow varieties that are sweet and good and above all let people know you have them. But do not fall down on your grading no matter how many orders you have to turn down. If you do, all the time and effort you have spent in building up a reputation as a grower of quality berries will quickly be lost.

When shipping to the wholesale markets grading is just as important as when selling locally. The transportation costs are the same, crates and picking the same, whether the berries are of the very best quality or are very poor but there will be a great difference in the returns from fancy berries and just ordinary ones. There is always enough spread on wholesale markets so that by commanding top quotations your berries will show a nice margin of profit.

If you ship to a commission house or do not sell for cash don't fail to inquire into the financial standing of the people to whom you sell. This will require very little time and may be the means of preventing the loss of both your time and money. The same is true of the nursery from whom you purchase your stock, look them up too, and make sure they are reliable and have a reputation of shipping only strong, healthy, true to name stock. This will be time well spent.

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PLANTS *of* QUALITY

Good plants, like good seed are always the best to buy. This is true regardless of what the cost may be. With poor mixed plants a paying crop of fruit is seldom produced, thus you lose the cost of the plants, the time and labor of caring for them, the use of the ground and also the profit that should have been rightly yours. Good plants at extremely high prices are cheaper, but in this case the cost of the plants will cut into your profit considerably.

Thus we reach the ideal for which Rayner Brothers have always striven. Good Plants at a Reasonable Price. For the past ten years we have strived to give our customers the very best plants we knew how to grow at a price they could well afford to pay. We feel we have succeeded by the very rapid growth our business has made during this period and by the fact that many of the growers who purchased plants from us the first year are still sending us their orders regularly.

In producing high quality plants there are several rules that must be rigidly followed

True to Name: The plants must be true to name and kept so by careful handling. The poorest plants are often better than mixed plants of some variety not suited to your soil or climate.

Plants: The plants must be good, with large healthy crowns and a full, well developed root system with an abundance of fine fibrous roots. Such plants can be grown only on light sandy loam such as we use for growing our plants. Sufficient plant food applied at the proper time and careful cultivation are also essential in producing high quality plants.

Cleaning: When plants are dug in the spring there are many dead leaves and runners hanging to the crown and if these are not removed there will be great danger of the plants heating in transit. We have received plants that were literally covered with dead leaves and runners and it cost 50c to $1.00 per 1000 to get them ready for planting. Our plants are thoroughly cleaned, all dead leaves and runners removed and the roots straightened. This makes planting better and easier besides saving quite a bit on transportation costs.

Grading: In every field there are always some late runner plants that are not fully developed. Such plants have poorly developed root systems and are of very little value. All such inferior plants should be discarded. There will be full count of strong, vigorous plants.

Handling: Plants, if permitted to stand unprotected in the sun or wind, dry out quickly and in so doing lose much of their strength and vitality. Plants must be kept moist and fresh, and handled quickly to retain all of their inherent value.

Packing: Our plants are carefully packed in light ventilated crates, small quantities wrapped in waterproof paper, the roots in layers of damp spaghnum moss with the crowns at the outside of the crate or package. Plants thus packed will arrive safely at their destination in perfect growing condition.

Promptness adds much to the value of the plants. Plants that do not arrive until after your best planting time is past are worth much less to you, even though the plants are of the very best quality, than plants that arrive promptly, right when you are ready for them. In Promptness we stand second to none in the berry plant business.

Any of these things omitted or carelessly done will detract from the true value of the plants and when placing your order with us you may rest assured all the above rules will be carefully followed. We know too well what the results would be, should we fail to maintain the high quality of our plants.

To gain and hold the confidence and good will of our customers and to build up a strong thriving business has always been our aim. We believe the true statement of facts, the honest description of varieties and by giving a "Square Deal" to every one to be the only way this great ambition may be fully realized.

The use you make of the enclosed order sheet will prove to us just what you think of the policy we are following. Send your order in now, shipment will be made when you desire.

A SUCCESSFUL BERRY FIELD FROM "RAYNER'S PLANTS"

This patch of Mr. Wissler's is producing a heavy crop of large luscious berries.

Rayner Brothers
Salisbury, Maryland

Lancaster Co., Penna.
October 6th, 1934

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find two snap shots of our berry patch, one taken in the fall and the other of the same patch from the same spot at picking time.

For the last two seasons I have been getting plants from you together with trial orders from other growers and I can find no better plants with better results than those I get from you, even though I pay higher prices to some other growers. Your plants are always strong and healthy making vigorous growth and producing a heavy crop of large luscious berries for which I have no troube finding a ready market.

Trusting you will continue your efficiency, I remain,

A satisfied customer,

J. N. Wissler

PLANTS THAT HAVE PLEASED

Suffolk Co., N. Y., April 10, 1934.—I received the berry plants this morning and they were in fine shape, thanks very much for your more than fair deal. Mr. Clarence Brown.

Amherst Co., Virginia, April 24, 1934.—Received the Strawberry plants promptly and in excellent condition. Have planted them and they are looking fine. Many thanks for the extra ones. Mr. Emmett E. Bwich.

Carroll Co., New Hampshire, May 1, 1934.—Can you ship me one thousand Strawberry plants May 15th as I cannot set them until late May. I had a shipment last year and they did fine. Mr. Ronoe A. Wiggins.

Adams Co., Penna., May 16, 1934.—The Dorsett Strawberry plants I received from you this Spring were in fine condition. Will you please let me know when your strawberries are in their best harvest. Several Strawberry growers and I have planned to visit you at that time. Mr. Maurice G. Baldwin.

Northampton Co., Penna., October 9th, 1934.—We received 4,000 Strawberry plants from you last spring, and we were very pleased with them, they surely were the nicest plants we have had yet from any Nursery and the most reasonably priced. The rows are now 24 to 30 inches wide and we have almost a 100% stand. We expect to send you an order for 5,000 plants next spring. Mr. Frank S. Roth.

Hamblen Co., Tennessee, April 23, 1934.—I received the 300 Dorsett and 300 Fairfax plants in extra good condition. They were the finest plants I ever received from any Nursery If the season was not so late for planting I would have given you another order for plants. I wanted to try the Southland in this section. I am very much pleased with the way you do business by being so prompt. The 500 Premier and the 500 Blakemore were also O.K. I wish to thank you for sending such nice plants and will favor you with future orders. Mr. Paul Sigler.

Wayne Co., New York, March 27, 1934.—Received plants from you last year in very good condition. They made good growth in spite of the dry season. Were fine plants and I am well satisfied with them. Thanks for the extra ones. Enclosed am sending you an order for 400 Premier and 400 Mastodon. You may send them by Parcel Post or Express, whichever is the cheapest. Mr. John Schnabel.

Pendleton Co., West Virginia, April 6, 1934—Enclosed herewith order for Strawberry plants and check for $6.37. I bought a few plants from you last year which were entirely satisfactory. I am sending names of a few friends. When addressing your catalogs to them you may say "commended by D. A. Landes" if you choose. Mr. D. A. Landes.

Perry Co., Penna., April 2, 1934.—I have recommended you and your plants to Mr. Knouse as he is starting in the Berry business. He would be pleased to receive a copy of your catalog. I told him Blakemore, Aberdeen and Premier were the best for me. I was mighty well pleased with the plants last year. Please ship the enclosed order as soon as you can. Mr. Jacob G. Pyle.

Westmoreland Co., Penna., March 6, 1934. Having met you at the Farm Show and from the results Chas. Tarr, one of my Vocational Agricultural students has had with your plants, you will find herewith another order for our work. Mr. R. E. Seeppy, Sup. of Agriculture.

Rutland Co., Vt., May 14,1934.—I received the berry plants from you and I was very much pleased with them as they were strong and healthy and had a fine root system. Sanford Holcomb.

Westchester Co., New York, May 9, 1934.—My plants arrived in Milford in wonderful condition; I finished planting this past week, some bunches had as high as 32 plants, you can surely count on me when I order plants again. I might order eighty thousand next spring as I plan on about 10 acres of strawberries, 3 of raspberries and 3 of blackberries. For complete satisfaction in every sense of the word, that's the way I feel about my dealings with you. Mr. W. E. McGuirk.

STRAWBERRY CULTURE

Sometime you may have read of Secret Methods for raising Strawberries. Well, the secret is the same as applies to any other crop, suitable soil, good plants, proper fertilization and clean, thorough cultivation. Anyone can grow berries successfully by following these simple directions. Most experienced growers follow this same procedure and have been doing so for years.

In strawberry culture, as with most other crops, there are a few seemingly unimportant operations that are really of major importance in relation to the success of the enterprise. Most of these cause no additional expense but by neglecting or failing to perform them at the proper time will be a decided setback to your project. We wish to call your attention to the paragraphs under Soil Selection, Preparing Land, **Time to Plant** and Fertilizer and Manure. These operations are of major importance and should be given special attention.

Adaptability: In this the Strawberry is the most versatile fruit grown and is successful from Florida to Alaska and from Maine to California, and can be grown on almost any soil that will retain sufficient moisture to mature the fruit. The adaptability of each variety for certain latitudes make this wide range possible.

Soil Selection: To produce the maximum yield the selection of suitable soil is of major importance. As strawberries draw very heavily on moisture at fruiting time and if there is not sufficient present, the crop will be cut down materially, the soil selected should be retentive of moisture, should contain an abundance of humus and at the same time have good drainage. These are the essentials of good strawberry soil. In sections where the white grub is prevalent, the soil selected for berries should have been planted to truck crops that had thorough cultivation for two years, previous to setting the berry plants. Soil that has been planted to truck crops is preferable in all cases as the clean cultivation given the preceeding crop will cut down the presence of weed seed and the soil will be in better mechanical condition. Newly plowed sod land should be avoided as it may be badly infested with white grub and at best it is rough and hard to get in any sort of condition. If no other land is available, plow in the fall and disc or harrow several times during the winter and spring. This will aid in getting the soil in better condition and most of the grubs will be killed out.

Preparing the Land: When conditions permit it is well to plow down a cover crop of rye and vetch or other cover crop suitable for your section, of course, this is not necessary, but it will add much humus to the soil which will increase the fertility and aid in retaining moisture. If the land should be covered with grass or weeds, these should be plowed down while green when they will add much humus to the soil and the seed will not likely germinate, but if permitted to die the growth is of little value and the seed will make constant hoeing necessary. The land selected should be plowed as early as possible in the spring and disced or harrowed thoroughly until a firm, even plant bed is obtained.

Time To Plant: From our experience Early Spring is the very best time to plant. When the plants are dormant they withstand digging, shipping and transplanting better, start growing quicker and are much more vigorous than when planted after the growth has started. It costs no more to plant early than late thus there is no reason why everyone should not enjoy the beneficial results of Early Planting. Light frosts, that do not heave the ground will not damage the plants. April is the proper time to set plants in the Northern States, in the Central States March and early April and in the Southern States from November 1 until April 1. Be sure to have your order in early so that the plants will be at hand when your ground is ready.

This is one of the great advantages we can offer you. Our climate is such that we can furnish you hardy, fresh dug plants promptly any time after Feb. 1, whereas Northern plant growers are unable to dig until your plants should have been in the ground. Then too, our plants are permitted to go through the winter unprotected and are therefore more hardy than plants grown where conditions make mulching necessary.

Care of Plants: Plants should be set as soon as received. If for any reason you are unable to set them for three or four days the plants should be removed from the crate and the roots and moss dampened, replaced in the crate and stored where it is cool, preferably in a cellar. Should you expect to hold the plants for a longer period it is better to heal them in the ground. The roots should be dampened, the bundles opened and the plants heeled in a V-shaped trench with the crowns even with the ground, and the soil packed firmly around the roots. If desirable they may be heeled in several layers with a few inches of soil between each row. By healing the plants in a shady place and keeping the soil moist they will keep in perfect condition for two weeks or even longer. Be sure to have the plants well spread out so that the soil will come in contact with all the roots.

Planting: There are many methods of setting plants and of course you should use the one best suited to your needs. The main object is to have the roots straight down and spread out fan shape with the crown even with the surface of the soil and the soil packed firmly about the roots. There are no beneficial effects from clipping the roots but it is better to clip off an inch or two than to have the roots doubled up. If a horse drawn transplanter is used this practice will be a great aid in getting the plants set properly. It is very important to set the plants at the proper depth, as any that are set too deep will seldom amount to anything even though they may live all summer and those set too shallow will have the top of the roots exposed to the air, this will dry the roots out and often the plant will die.

The most popular tools for setting plants are the trowel, dibble or spade. Under favorable conditions the horse drawn transplanter will give good results provided the operators use care so that the plants are set properly.

Before setting, the plants should be soaked in water for several hours or over night, so that the roots may absorb all the moisture possible. This will aid in carrying the plants until feeder roots can be sent out. The plants should be protected from the sun and wind and should be kept moist until set.

Distance to Plant: The plants should be set from 15 to 24 inches apart in rows from 3½ to 4½ feet apart. The distance plants are set in the row should vary according to the variety. Heavy bedding varieties such as Blakemore and Dunlap should be set farther apart than varieties that make large plants but do not bed so freely, such as Chesapeake or Beauty. We have found 3 feet 8 inches a good distance for the rows but on very fertile soil it is well to space them 4 or even 4½ feet. With plants set 18 to 20 inches and rows 3 feet 8 inches about 8,000 plants are required per acre.

Cultivation: After the growth starts the plants should be kept thoroughly cultivated. It is well to cultivate at weekly intervals until the plant bed is made. This will aid in preserving moisture and will also cut down on the hoeing necessary to keep down weeds. Cultivation next to the plants should be shallow, stirring the soil to a depth of not more than 2 inches. The plants should be hoed soon after they are set and care should be taken to uncover any plants that have been set too deep. This is important, don't neglect it. Hoeing should also be shallow, from 1 to 1½ inches. In the cultivation always avoid going to a depth that will disturb the roots. Generally, the well spaced matted row is the best system for growing strawberries. For this system each plant is permitted to make 15 to 25 runner plants and sometimes even more. The first runners should be encouraged as the ear-

STRAWBERRY CULTURE---(Continued)

ly plants are much more productive than the late runners. When hoeing it is well to see that the plants do not become too thickly set in the bed. This should be given special attention with free bedding varieties such as Blakemore and Dorsett.

With 3½ foot rows a bed 15 to 20 inches wide, with the plants well spaced, will be ideal for heavy production of large fruit. Where the rows are further apart the bed may be wider in proportion. For the hill system the plants are set much closer and all the runners kept cut off. As this method requires much hard hand labor we feel it should be used only when space is very limited or with the Everbearers.

Removing Blossoms: Flower stems usually appear on strawberry plants soon after they are set in the field and as the production of fruit is a severe drain on their vitality, the flower stems should be removed as they appear. With the Everbearers the blossoms should be removed until the plants are well established, this will usually require about sixty days.

Fertilizer and Manure: Well rotted stable manure is ideal for strawberries. This may be applied immediately after the ground is plowed in the spring and disced in. When applied to the preceeding crop the results are usually as good as when applied directly to the soil for berries. If you do not have this material, green manure and commercial fertilizer may be used with very good results. Though green manures are desirable they are not essential for profitable berry production except when the soil is deficient in humus (organic matter). For several years we have used a mixture of 3 parts dissolved bone and 1 part 16% acid phosphate, at the rate of 500 lbs. per acre in the drill, applied about a week before the plants are set. This has given very satisfactory results. The fertilizer should be thoroughly worked in and mixed with the soil or it may be applied as a top dressing after the plants are set. With unfavorable conditions or with a late spring it is better to apply as a top dressing than to wait a week for the fertilizer to become mixed with the soil. Never set the plants immediately after the fertilizer is applied, wait at least a full week. Where it is applied broadcast, 1000 lbs. per acre may be safely used but it should be worked into the soil well, at least a week prior to setting plants. We do not recommend using more than 1000 lbs. broadcast or 600 lbs. in the drill. Raw bone meal may also be used and gives very good results. However, this is rather expensive and is slow to become available. Nitrate of Soda, Sulphate of Ammonia and Potash Salts should be avoided as any of these materials will burn the roots should they come in direct contact with them. If such material must be used it should be applied as a top dressing and placed considerable distance from the plants. If poultry manure is available a combination of two parts manure and one part 16% phosphoric acid will make a very satisfactory fertilizer. This should be applied as for the other commercial fertilizers. A top dressing in late summer or early spring, though not necessary, will often increase the yield and the size of the fruit considerably. Usually the fall application is preferable as it does not cause such a rank growth of vines and weeds as when applied in the spring. This should be applied when the leaves are dry, at the rate of 600 to 800 lbs. per acre, of a mixture containing from 4 per cent to 7 per cent nitrogen, 6 per cent to 10 per cent phosphoric acid and little or no potash. All fertilizer should be brushed off the leaves. It has never been established that Potash is of any benefit to the berries either in firmness or flavor and in some tests has been detrimental when the application was heavy.

Mating Varieties: The perfect varieties will produce a full crop of fruit when planted alone. The imperfect varieties must be planted with some perfect variety of the same season to pollenize the blossoms. There should be two rows of the perfect and four rows of the imperfect or one third perfect and two thirds imperfect, planted in the same row. Big Late is the only imperfect variety we list.

Mulching: There are several reasons why mulching is desirable. Its use prevents the freezing and thawing of the ground in winter, keeps the soil cool and conserves moisture during the fruiting season and also helps to keep the berries clean during a rain. Strawy stable manure, straw, wild hay or marsh grass are materials commonly used. Many growers raise their mulch between the strawberry rows. Spring oats are usually planted for this purpose. These are planted about 50 days before killing frosts are expected at the rate of 1 to 1½ bushels per acre. The first hard freeze kills the oats which fall down and protect the plants. If this practice is followed do not plant too thick or too close to the rows. In the spring the mulch should be raked off between the rows or worked down around the plants where it will also serve to retard the growth of weeds.

Spraying and Dusting: As strawberries are seldom subject to any serious damage from diseases or insects spraying or dusting are not commonly practiced. Setting healthy plants of varieties immune or resistant to disease is much more desirable.

Summer and Early Fall Planting: There are two reasons why Summer and early Fall planting is seldom successful; first, it is almost impossible to get good plants and second; even if you get good plants they seldom, if ever, give as good results as plants set in the early spring. Don't put off your planting until Fall. If you do you are almost sure to be disappointed.

EXCELLENT PLANTS, FINE CONDITION

Westmoreland Co., Penna., April 14, 1934—I received my order of 15,000 Premier strawberry plants on April 12, in excellent condition and was very much pleased with them, as they were a very nice lot of plants. I also wish to thank you for the extra plants which you sent me.—Mr. Harry J. Roadman.

NEVER RECEIVED BETTER PLANTS

Columbia Co., New York, March 1, 1934.—As we are considering buying some of your strawberry plants this spring would you kindly advise what the Parcel Post charges would be per 5,000 plants to our local Post Office. We set some of your plants last spring and were well pleased with them. Will say that we have never received better plants from any Nursery than the ones we received from you. They arrived in perfect condition and looked as though they had just been dug. Don't know at present how many we shall set but may give you an order for 5, 10 or 15 thousand.—Mr. Arthur Van Deusen.

FROM NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Amherst Co., Virginia, December 3, 1934—I received your catalog last spring and I was very sorry indeed that I had just ordered my plants. I would be glad to have your prices on Premier plants so I will have time to see how many I can plant this spring. I saw Mr. Watts' field the other day and they were just fine, so I have changed my mind and plants also.—Mr. Leonard W. Wood.

VERY GOOD SHAPE

Brodheadville Co., Pa., May 3, 1934.—Your kind letter and shipment of plants was received yesterday, May 2nd, and they were in very good shape. I received your letter in the morning and called the express office at once, the plants had arrived the afternoon before. Another year I will try three of your other varieties., so far I have been growing nothing but Chesapeake and Premier and as I don't like the Premier any more I think I will close them out and try the Dorsett and Fairfax.—Mr. Elijah V. Bond.

DORSETT AND FAIRFAX

FAR SUPERIOR *to other early* VARIETIES

Last year, in describing these varieties, we gave two separate descriptions, however, they were so much alike that the same description applied to either in many respects. This was pretty confusing and made it hard to distinguish the real differences in them. This year we are describing them together and comparing each point, which we hope, will aid you in deciding which is best suited to your needs. We honestly believe these varieties, through their superior flavor and quality will actually increase the consumption of berries thereby increasing the demand and enlarging the market for them. That with their better carrying and keeping qualities prices will be steadier and the gluts that so often occured during wet weather, with the old varieties, will be materially reduced if not eliminated. Frankly, we believe a grower who has found them suited to his soil will be wise in planting one of these varieties 100% for his early market.

HISTORY—Both varieties are seedlings of Premier and Royal Sovereign, from a scientific cross made in 1923 at the U. S. Department of Agriculture plant breeding Station, located near Glendale, Maryland. Both Dorsett and Fairfax were among selections made from this cross in 1925. Tests made in Southern New Jersey in 1930 indicated both varieties were worthy of introduction, being superior, in many respects, to any of the standard commercial varieties. Were both introduced in 1932.

GROWTH—In health and vigor both are far superior to any of the older sorts, making a strong upright growth that may become too rank on rich soil or when too liberal applications of fertilizer are made, this is especially true in the Northern states. This condition should be avoided as the yield and size of the berries will be cut down materially. In resistance to leaf spot and scorch both varieties are equal to Premier, one of the most resistant of present varieties. Dorsett makes plants very freely, setting a dense matted row, the plants may become too thick in the row on rich soil, making thinning necessary to obtain the maximum of size and yield. Fairfax cannot be termed a free plant maker, although more plants are set than Premier, usually well spaced in the row. Thinning will be necessary only in extreme cases. In size, Dorsett plants are slightly smaller than Fairfax.

SIZE—The berries of both Dorsett and Fairfax are very large, averaging larger than any other early variety, being fully as large as Chesapeake. Dorsett berries are of blunt to long conic shape averaging more to the long conic, have a slight tendency to run down in size toward the end of the season under dry conditions, with sufficient moisture this is less pronounced. Fairfax are of blunt conic shape with a few of the first fruit wedge shape. Under normal conditions the fruit will vary very little in size from the first picking to the last. Under very dry conditions there is some variation.

QUALITY AND FLAVOR—In this both Dorsett and Fairfax are far superior to any variety now grown, even outclassing Chesapeake, the variety that held this honor for so many years. This superior flavor and quality is credited to their parent, the Royal Sovereign, an old English variety that was famed for its high dessert quality. From our observations we have found, under normal conditions, the Fairfax has a more rich, full flavor than Dorsett but under wet to very wet conditions the Dorsett is slightly superior and holds its flavor better, though both retain their flavor and firm texture far better than any variety we have compared.

FIRMNESS—Both varieties have shown to be very good shippers, withstanding long hauls very well, outclassing Premier in this respect by a wide margin. Compared with Blakemore, Dorsett is slightly less firm and Fairfax slightly more firm. Fairfax, however, loses its brilliance and darkens more quickly after picking and in transit, than Dorsett or Blakemore.

PRODUCTIVENESS — Production, we believe, under normal conditions, is well above that of any of the present varieties with the exception of Premier and Aberdeen which have both set tremendous records. Compared with good long distance shipping varieties such as Blakemore and Chesapeake they will average 20 per cent to 30 per cent more marketable fruit. Under rather dry conditions the percentage will be much higher, with extremely dry weather the margin will be somewhat lower. Under wet to very wet conditions, when all varieties produce very heavily, this lead in marketable fruit will be apparent in less decay and less loss from sun scald and blister.

COLOR—The major difference in the two varieties. Dorsett berries are a light red, slightly darker than Blakemore but much lighter than Premier, and like Blakemore, they retain this light color for several days after they are apparently ripe and do not become dark even when very over-ripe. For wholesale markets this is very desirable because buyers feel dark berries are over-ripe and will not keep so long. Therefore, dark berries seldom bring top prices in city markets. Fairfax berries are a medium light red when first ripening, turning dark quickly as they become over-ripe but even after they have turned almost purple for several days the berries are firm and of fine flavor and if permitted to hang on the vines most of them just dry up without decaying. In answer to that question, so often asked, "Which is the better berry, Dorsett or Fairfax", we can only reply: The variety with the color best suited to your needs. We believe, as Fairfax qualities become better known, the prejudice in large markets, against dark berries, will be replaced with an increasing demand for them.

FROST RESISTANCE—Dorsett and Fairfax, being crosses of Premier should be able to withstand severe frost. They have been fruited for about eight years and during this time have never shown any appreciable frost damage.

ADAPTABILITY—When first introduced Dorsett and Fairfax were recommended for the latitude of Maryland and New Jersey. Further tests, however, have revealed their adaptability to almost all sections where Premier can be grown successfully, they are doing well in the Pacific Northwest, even

beyond Premier's western limit. In that section Fairfax is the more valuable of the two. In the northern latitudes on very rich soil excess vegetative growth is encountered with and this impedes proper pollenization especially in Dorsett.

ARE DORSETT AND FAIRFAX MORE PROFITABLE—While at New Haven, Connecticut, we visited a grower who had a small planting of Dorsett and about an equal planting of Premier or Howard 17 as they are known in New England. This was on the 14th of June, both varieties were picking well, Dorsett berries were somewhat larger than the Premier and they had a more vigorous growth, the yield was about equal. At the Farmer's auction that evening these berries were sold to the highest bidder. The Premier sold for $3.60, the Dorsett $4.10 for 32 qt. crates. With a yield of 5,000 quarts per acre in both varieties and only 40c more per crate for the Dorsett, the margin of profit over the Premier would be $61.20 per acre. These figures are very conservative, we frankly believe the great difference in the size of the fruit during the last half of the season will give a much greater margin than the amount given.

At the Auction that evening we checked the sales for some time, the buyers were from all sections of the Northeastern states, some from Boston, from Providence, from New York and Philadelphia and from other cities and towns too numerous too record. We knew this was a good representative gathering of the buyers for the eastern markets. The price paid for a variety simply showed what these men thought of it. Their opinion of its keeping and carrying quality, of its flavor and appearance, of the consumers' demand for it were all reflected in the bids made. During the time we were checking the sales there were three major varieties offered, namely Premier, Dorsett and Aberdeen, average prices paid were: Premier $3.60, Dorsett $4.00, and Aberdeen $3.00. A very few Fairfax were offered and brought $4.75 but as the supply was very limited we do not consider this a fair comparison, although on the previous day several crates sold for $8.00 per crate. This does indicate, however, that the Fairfax is very well thought of by these buyers.

OTHER EARLY VARIETIES

Southland Originated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and first introduced in 1932. Southland was developed and introduced to fill a specific need. The need for a really high quality home garden and local market berry for the South. All the southern shipping varieties, while ideal for that purpose, are rather poor in dessert quality. Southland, with its fine quality and flavor, very large size and great attractiveness, offers higher standards for home consumption than the South has ever before enjoyed. While we do not recommend it as a shipping berry, we really believe they will be a very profitable variety for sale in the Southern cities and towns and when their higher qualities become better known, there will be a definite demand for them. While production must necessarily be limited to local consumption we are of the opinion a grower who is favorably located will find Southland much more profitable than the shipping varieties. Under normal conditions there are two crops produced, one from the fruit buds formed just before the plants become dormant and the other from the fruit buds formed just after the growth starts. The plant growth is strong and vigorous. If you are not growing Southland, try them, you may be missing something that is really worth while.

Ridgely From our observations we believe this variety may be of considerable value to growers who have moist, springy soil that may not be well suited to some of the other early varieties. Under normal moisture conditions Ridgely is very productive and sizes up the entire crop satisfactorily. The fruit is firm, light red and holds this light color well. The calyx are of good size and a bright green and when packed the berries present a very pleasing appearance. On the lighter soils or on soil that has a tendency to dry out quickly, Ridgely is unsatisfactory. The foliage does not hold up sufficiently to protect the fruit and the yield is very poor. If you have soil suitable for Ridgely we recommend them for trial.

MORE PLANTS NEXT SPRING

Westmoreland Co., Penna., April 24, 1934.—I received the shipment of strawberry plants and they look fine. They are nice healthy looking plants, will need more plants next spring.—Paul Gibson.

REGARDLESS OF PRICE, RAYNER'S PLANTS WIN

Lewis Co., New York, April 14, 1934.—We have bought berry plants from you at different times and we were well pleased. Have bought plants from other Nurseries at higher prices and the plants were not as nice.—Mr. Romeyn N. Noftsier.

PROMPT SERVICE

Potter Co., Pa., May 12, 1934.—The 8,000 Joyce plants arrived yesterday morning in fine condition. I wish to thank you for your prompt and efficient service—the plants arrived in less than 48 hours after I telegraphed for them. Mr. O. B. Geer.

FINE BERRY PATCH

Bristol Co., Mass., January 13, 1934.—I received your catalog and I was really surprised at the prices. The plants that I bought last year were in the very best of shape. They are now strong and healthy and I have a fine strawberry patch. Mr. Matthew Furmanik.

FAIR TREATMENT, GENEROUS COUNT

Rockland Co., New York, May 15, 1934.—The strawberry plants I ordered of you were received by Parcel Post and were very satisfactory. You have not only treated me fairly but have been generous in giving me extra plants of Dorsett and Mastodon varieties. I am a retired lawyer and am enjoying life growing things.—Mr. J. W. Uppercu.

ON TIME, FINE CONDITION

Belmont Co., Ohio, April 23, 1934.—My shipment of strawberry and asparagus plants arrived on time and in fine condition. Wish to state that I have never received a finer lot of plants and with favorable weather to give them a good start I hope they will drive old man depression away and give us another boost towards prosperity.—Mr. M. H. Stobbs.

GOOD PLANTS MAKE REPEAT ORDERS

Jefferson Co., New York, March 26, 1934.—The plants (2000) which I ordered of you last spring made a very nice fruiting row. I am now in the market for several thousand plants for this spring and I am coming to Salisbury after them as soon as I can prepare the ground for them, which will be from the middle to the last of April.—Mr. R. B. Archer.

PREMIER

Since first introduced in 1915 Premier has been praised by all who have grown or handled them. Plant growers, in describing it, have resorted to about all the adjectives in the English language and even then this praise was none too great. Premier swept the country like wildfire and except on the Pacific Coast and in the South, has given more general satisfaction, produced larger crops and returned larger profits than any variety yet introduced. At high or low altitude, on sandy loam, on stiff clay, on shale or stony soil the results were the same. Premier has some faults but these were not of sufficient importance to check its popularity. Now, some growers are asking for a variety that is more firm, has better flavor and quality, a variety that will size up the last of the crop better and will come back with a paying crop the second year. To these growers we offer Dorsett, for markets preferring light berries and Fairfax for markets where dark fruit is preferred.

GROWTH—Premier is a very vigorous variety, making a good bed on all types of soil, however, they respond well to fertile soil and good cultivation. In their freedom from disease they have been the standard by which other varieties are judged.

SIZE—The first berries average large to very large but due to Premier's tremendous productiveness they have a tendency to run down during the last of the season as so many berries are set that it is practically impossible for them all to size up unless the soil and weather conditions are very favorable.

FIRMNESS—Fruit is fairly firm, but here is what we consider Premier's weakest point. For home markets or markets within 100 or 150 miles there is very little trouble from this source but when trucked, or shipped in refrigerator cars for greater distances, the berries often arrive in very poor condition, molding or decaying badly before reaching the consumer. This condition is very pronounced during wet weather and these berries coming in by the truck load and train load have a tendency to demoralize the larger wholesale markets which in turn lowers prices generally. If growers who ship long distances would only handle such varieties as Blakemore, Missionary or Dorsett, we feel sure a greater demand and better general prices would prevail.

QUALITY AND FLAVOR—The flavor and quality are both very good. This is necessary for any variety to have gained the popularity Premier has enjoyed.

PRODUCTIVENESS—Everyone knows of Premier's productiveness, under some conditions they may have been equalled or even bettered but for heavy production under general conditions they stand unchallenged. Growers have written us telling of yields of over 20,000 quarts per acre under conditions that were far from ideal.

Cooper The first fruit is very large but runs down in size; quality and flavor excellent. Too soft for distant shipment. The fruit has no lustre. Of value only for home garden or local market and for these purposes there are many varieties that outclass it. If you know and like this variety, we have the plants, if not, we would recommend something else.

Missionary An old, dependable shipping variety, largely grown in Florida and other southern states. Does well in all types of soil and especially well in the lighter types. Is very popular with the juice men. We believe Blakemore a better variety generally, with the exception of in Florida where Missionary is still the leading variety. The fruit is rather tart, dark red in color, of medium size and has a very attractive appearance. A heavy producer and sizes up the entire crop well.

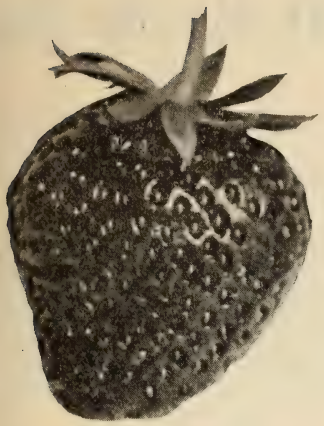
Red Gold A fair producer of medium sized berries of oval shape. Fruit very glossy and of fine flavor and quality. Under favorable conditions Red Gold does very well but with either extreme of wet or dry weather they are often disappointing. The fruit lacks both flavor and firmness under excess moisture and the foliage does not hold up when too dry. If you have found them suited to your requirements we have a nice supply of plants.

Howard 17 (Premier). This variety is really Premier or vice versa. It is conceded they were really originated by Mr. Howard but were widely advertised as Premier before introduced as Howard 17 and are generally known by that name except in the New England states. They are officially known as Howard 17 in the State Experiment Stations and by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Regardless of name, they are a mighty fine variety. For full description see Premier.

IN 35 YEARS RAYNER'S PLANTS ARE THE BEST

Marshall Co., W. Va., September 17, 1934.—The four varieties of strawberries I purchased from you this spring have made a wonderful showing in spite of the worst drought on record. They have made fine rows and are the healthiest plants I've ever grown. I have been growing strawberries for 35 years and have dealt with several Nurseries but I've never received plants from any Nursery that come up to Rayner Brother's. They are No. 1, and there are no better at any price.—Mr. F. A. Wolff.

BLAKEMORE



BLAKEMORE

A cross of Premier and Missionary, originated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and released by them in 1930. Blakemore has quickly taken the lead over all southern shipping berries, except in Florida where Missionary is more suitable. All over the southeastern states and as far north as Pennsylvania and New Jersey, this variety has shown itself outstanding as an early shipper. Surpassing Premier in firmness, color and carrying qualities.

GROWTH—Being one of the most heavily bedding varieties, Blakemore will make an abundance of plants on comparatively poor land and on rich soil or in the north thinning is often necessary to obtain satisfactory size and yield. If this is neglected the results are sure to be disappointing, the berries will be small and the yield poor, but if properly thinned Blakemore will make a very good showing even under very dry conditions. The foliage is very clean and holds up well all through the fruiting season.

SIZE—The berries are of medium size, somewhat smaller than Premier at the first picking, but for the entire season they average about the same.

FIRMNESS—In this Blakemore is really outstanding, the berries are very firm and can be hauled great distances with no loss in attractiveness. We have compared them with Premier after being trucked 250 miles. The Premier were badly bruised, shaken down and the baskets stained, while the Blakemore were firm and bright, the baskets well filled and almost as clean as if there had been no berries in them. The color is very light red, this is also in their favor as a commercial variety, as on most wholesale markets, the buyers feel that light berries are not so ripe and will keep longer. Then too, when help is short or weather conditions delay picking, the berries will hang on the vines for several days without loss from decay or over-ripening.

PRODUCTIVENESS — Blakemore, though not quite as productive as some varieties, will produce well above the average and on the poorer soils, almost equal to the best. For best yields do not let the plants become too thick in the row.

Bellmar Another of the U. S. Department creations. Like Blakemore, a seedling of Premier and Missionary. Bellmar was introduced in 1931 and has gained quite some popularity along the East Coast, as far south as North Carolina and on up into the New England States. Its success has not been outstanding, although in some cases it has proven superior to the older varieties. The fruiting season is two to three days later than Blakemore, the berries are large, firm, uniform, of a rather dark glossy red, somewhat darker than Premier but their gloss gives them a fresh, bright appearance and they do not appear over-ripe as most dark berries do. Very productive, in normal seasons running close to Aberdeen or Premier, sizing up the entire crop very well. The plant growth is very vigorous, though more susceptible to leaf spot than Premier. Last year, under exceptionally wet conditions the foliage broke down badly, however, this was an extreme case. Usually, under dry conditions, Bellmar does not hold up as well as we would like except when planted on low, moist soil. Taking these facts into consideration we advise that, before planting heavily of Bellmar, you try them out in your own soil to find if they are suitable.

Clermont A New York Station creation. We have not fruited it but from our observations we believe it may be a really good variety. At Geneva, New York, it is reported to have been the most outstanding of all varieties on test, which included many of the new and widely advertised varieties. The plants are strong and vigorous and make a fine fruiting bed. Producing a heavy crop of large, very bright, glossy red berries. This brilliant gloss combined with their bright green calyx gives them an outstanding appearance. The fruit is firm and of good flavor. Offered for trial.

BELLMAR
(Much reduced)

GOOD AS CAN BE GROWN

Warren Co., Mo., Oct. 22, 1934.—I received the plants from you in good shape and you have sent me good plants, I want to thank you as they were as good as can be grown. Nicely cleaned and ready to plant.—Mr. Edw. J. Polster.

Reports That Show Ra

Mr. Shaffer and His Berry Patch

Snyder Co., Pa.,

Rayner Brothers
Salisbury, Maryland
Dear Sirs:

I received my Strawberry plants last spring in good condition and I was very much pleased with them, they were rooted good and every plant grew out of 7,000.

I planted my rows four feet apart and the runners were meeting by the first of September.

My friends tell me they never saw a berry patch to equal it and I tell them they need not hesitate to send to Rayner Brothers for high quality, extra plants and prompt service.

Paul R. Shaffer

FINE CONDITION

Iredell Co., North Carolina, April 23, 1934.—We received the plants Saturday in fine condition, thank you for being so kind as to send them on in spite of the Post Office error. We received the Money Order and are returning it to our Post Mistress as she paid the C.O.D. for us. Sorry that you had the extra bother about it.—Mr. W. T. Tolger.

A GOOD FRIEND

Ritchie Co., W. Va., March 8, 1934.—Please book my order for 1,000 Premier and 200 Mastodon strawberry plants, to be shipped via express to Elenboro, W. Va., about the last of April.

Herbert Elliott, Millstone, W. Va., is responsible for you getting this order. I asked him to tell me where good strawberry plants could be bought, and he recommended you.—D. W. Shock.

SELF-SUPPORTING WITH RAYNER'S PLANTS

Bristol Co., Mass., July 5, 1934—From the plants bought of you I have built up a business that is self-supporting, selling all times at my roadside stand. The Aberdeen is wonderful and has the longest season of any and would be 100% perfect if the fruit were a little firmer. The Premier is too dark after being picked a day.—Mr. Alden F. Keyes.

FINE SELECTION—PROMPT SERVICE

Allegheny Co., Penna., April 10, 1934.—The plants arrived in fine shape and I certainly was well pleased with them. Thanks for the fine selection and for the prompt attention given my order.—Mr. A. M. Krall.

BETTER CROPS WITH RAYNER'S PLANTS

Otsego Co., New York, February 23, 1934.—I am sending you the names and addresses of several large berry growers who I believe would like to have your catalog. I am not personally acquainted with all these men, but know them to be berry growers of more or less importance. I am sending these names to you because you produce A-1 plants and they can most likely better their crops by planting them. If I learn of more growers I will send them in with my order.—Mr. Fred W. Allmendinger.

FUGIEMA PLANTS FINE

Athens Co., Ohio, July 7, 1934.—I left your plant catalog in Florida so would you kindly favor me with another copy of your 1934 Berry Book. The Fugiema plants are the finest I ever saw but find them slow plant setters. The foliage is ideal, the runners strong and of large size. I may want a few more plants in the spring.—Mr. W. M. Higley.

FINE SHAPE

Steuben Co., N. Y., May 9, 1934.—I received my plants yesterday (May 8th) in fine shape. Have them all set and they made three very good looking rows. Was surprised to receive them so soon after ordering. A new customer.—Mrs. Raymond T. Stewart.

100% STAND

Bucks Co., Penna., May 4, 1934.—The plants that you sent me are fine, and it looks as if I will get a 100% stand from them now for I planted them as soon as they arrived, and we are now having a rain.—Elmer F. Egert.

VERY MUCH PLEASED

Ulster Co., N. Y., May 1st, 1934.—I received the strawberry plants all in fine condition, and am very much pleased with them.—J. A. Emenneker.

PLANTS LAST YEAR VERY SATISFACTORY

Mifflin Co., Penna., April 4, 1934.—Please send me your 1934 catalog of plants. I am interested in 1,000 strawberry plants. We used your plants last year and they were very satisfactory.—Dean Duart.

Mr. Mattock's Patch is Admired by All

Bradford Co., Pa.,

Rayner Brothers
Salisbury, Maryland
Dear Sirs:

Thinking you might be interested in our recent experience with 7,000 of your Premier plants, which I received on April 27, 1933. As they were in such excellent condition we hardly lost a plant, they are now the finest looking plants we have ever raised and everyone is admiring them.

Thanking you for your prompt service and quality plants, I am,

Yours for future orders,
Clyde A. Mattocks

er's Plants Really Please

Mr. Smale's First Berry Field

Northampton Co., Pa.,

Rayner Brothers
Salisbury, Maryland

Dear Sirs:

Last Spring I decided to plant a berry patch, but as I had never planted any before, I sent to two firms for catalogs. I had studied them for several days when I received your catalog. I saw at once that your prices were much lower than the others but I was afraid that the plants might not be as good. But after I read the testimonial of a large grower I knew I decided if they were good enough for him they would be good enough for me. So I ordered 1000 Chesapeake and 1000 Joyce and 200 Mastodon. They arrived in fine shape and on the day requested but I had to hold some of them two weeks before I could plant them on account of weather conditions. I believe every plant grew and they sure made plenty of runners.

Enclosed are photos taken from each end of the patch. I haven't seen one that could beat it all summer. The Mastodon plants have given us all the berries we could use all summer and are still hanging full. I am well pleased with your plants.

Yours very truly,
Clarence Smale

PREMIER YIELDING AT 20,992 QUARTS PER ACRE

Huntington Co., Penna., December 13, 1933.—I am writing in regard to some Premier and Mastodon Strawberry plants. I wish to get two or three thousand Premier and 500 Mastodon. Please send me a catalog and prices on this number of plants. Last summer, on 1-4 acre we had 164 32-quart crates. I now have 1-4 acre in rye to plant next spring. I was talking to Mr. Menno Byler at Belleville. He is going to put out about an acre. Now if you will send him a catalog I am sure you will get his order. I told him to get his plants from you as I never got nicer plants or better treatment, and I told him that if things were not right you people would make them right.—Mr. J. E. Kauffman.

$630.00 FROM 5,000 PLANTS

Garrett Co., Maryland, July 30, 1934.—I want to give you a report of my strawberry crop, also of the plants that we received from you this spring. We had a very bad spring on plants, a lot of cold winds and hard frosts, then followed with dry weather. But I have a fairly good stand and they are coming along nicely now, starting to make runners. The 5,000 Premier plants I got from you last year yielded about 9,000 quarts, which is the best yield known around here. We made two gades which sold from 6c to 12c per quart, averaging about 9c. Our best week we picked nearly 4,000 quarts.—Mr. Eli Yoder.

1100 QUARTS FROM 1000 PLANTS

Carroll Co., Virginia, April 5, 1934.—I am enclosing an order for 1400 more Strawberry plants, 1000 Premier and 200 each of Big Joe and Chesapeake. Last year I picked 240 measured gallons from the 1000 Premier plants bought of you the spring before last. They were the finest berries I ever saw. Besides the 240 gallons we ate berries for table use for a period of almost five weeks. In all there must have been 275 gallons.J—Mr. F. E. DeHaven.

MAY EXPECT ORDER IN SPRING

Lehigh Co., Penna., October 8, 1933.—The plants we received from you have turned out wonderful. We planted 9,000 bought from you on April 18th, 1933. Due to unfavorable weather they were not planted until ten days later, April 28, 1933. We have been growing strawberries for the last ten years but the plants we received from you were the nicest and best rooted young plants that we have had during that time. This is the first year that we are trying the Blakemore and Aberdeen and we are pleased to say that we have never seen two varieties that make so many nice young plants. We are very well satisfied and know that you can expect an order from us in the spring.—Mr. L. J. Shoemaker, Mgr.

BEAUTIFUL BEDS

Hunterdon Co., New Jersey, August 20, 1934.—Enclosed please find an order for Chesapeake strawberry plants. I would like to plant them now for next year. Last spring I planted some Premier and Aberdeen which I ordered from you and I am glad to say they did very well and have formed beautiful beds already. I hope to have the same good luck with these too.—Miss Mary Ott.

VERY GOOD CONDITION

Mercer Co., Penna., April 18, 1934.—Received the plants Monday in very good condition. Set them out Tuesday and they certainly look fine.—Mr. Victor J. Schaller.

Beautiful Beds 5½ Months Old.

Berks Co., Pa.,
October 4,1933.

Rayner Brothers
Salisbury, Maryland

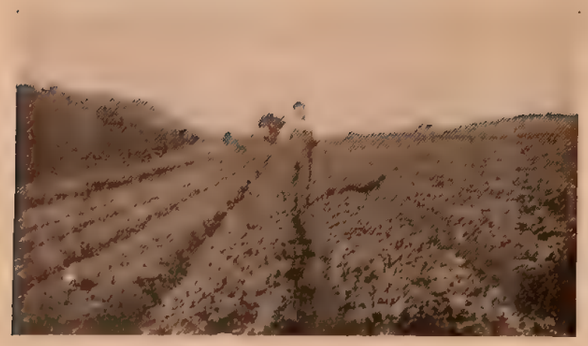
Dear Sirs:

My fine stand of strawberry plants are now 5½ months old, looks like a year old patch and they were grown without an ounce of fertilizer. The plants were received fresh and bright and when planted, started right off to growing without even wilting.

I think your plants are superior to plants costing twice as much.

Yours truly,
D. B. Weaver

Reports That Show Rayner's Plants Really Please



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Athens Co., Ohio, July 7, 1934.—I left your plant catalog in Florida so would you kindly favor me with another copy of your 1934 Berry Book. The Fugiema plants are the finest I ever saw but find them slow plant setters. The foliage is ideal, the runners strong and of large size. I may want a few more plants in the spring.—Mr. W. M. Higley.

FINE SHAPE

Steuben Co., N. Y., May 9, 1934.—I received my plants yesterday (May 8th) in fine shape. Have them all set and they made three very good looking rows. Was surprised to receive them so soon after ordering. A new customer.—Mrs. Raymond T. Stewart.

100% STAND

Bucks Co., Penna., May 4, 1934.—The plants that you sent me are fine, and it looks as if I will get a 100% stand from them now for I planted them as soon as they arrived, and we are now having a rain. Elmer F. Egert.

VERY MUCH PLEASED

Ulster Co., N. Y., May 1st, 1934.—I received the strawberry plants all in fine condition, and am very much pleased with them.—J. A. Emenneker.

PLANTS LAST YEAR VERY SATISFACTORY

Mifflin Co., Penna., April 4, 1934.—Please send me your 1934 catalog of plants. I am interested in 1,000 strawberry plants. We used your plants last year and they were very satisfactory.—Dean Duart.

Mr. Mattock's Patch is Admired by All

Bradford Co., Pa.,

Rayner Brothers
Salisbury, Maryland
Dear Sirs:

Thinking you might be interested in our recent experience with 7,000 of your Premier plants, which I received on April 27, 1933. As they were in such excellent condition we hardly lost a plant, they are now the finest looking plants we have ever raised and everyone is admiring them.

Thanking you for your prompt service and quality plants, I am,

Yours for future orders.
Clyde A. Mattocks

Mr. Smale's First Berry Field

Northampton Co., Pa.,

Rayner Brothers
Salisbury, Maryland
Dear Sirs:

Last Spring I decided to plant a berry patch, but as I had never planted any before, I sent to two firms for catalogs. I had studied them for several days when I received your catalog. I saw at once that your prices were much lower than the others but I was afraid that the plants might not be as good. But after I read the testimonial of a large grower I knew I decided if they were good enough for him they would be good enough for me. So I ordered 1000 Chesapeake and 1000 Joyce and 200 Mastodon. They arrived in fine shape and on the day requested but I had to hold some of them two weeks before I could plant them on account of weather conditions. I believe every plant grew and they sure made plenty of runners.

Enclosed are photos taken from each end of the patch. I haven't seen one that could beat it all summer. The Mastodon plants have given us all the berries we could use all summer and are still hanging full. I am well pleased with your plants.

Yours very truly,
Clarence Smale

PREMIER YIELDING AT 20,992 QUARTS PER ACRE

Huntington Co., Penna., December 13, 1933.—I am writing in regard to some Premier and Mastodon Strawberry plants. I wish to get two or three thousand Premier and 500 Mastodon. Please send me a catalog and prices on this number of plants. Last summer, on 1-4 acre we had 164 32-quart crates. I now have 1-4 acre in rye to plant next spring. I was talking to Mr. Menno Byler at Belleville. He is going to put out about an acre. Now if you will send him a catalog I am sure you will get his order. I told him to get his plants from you as I never got nicer plants or better treatment, and I told him that if things were not right you people would make them right.—Mr. J. E. Kauffman.

$630.00 FROM 5,000 PLANTS

Garrett Co., Maryland, July 30, 1934.—I want to give you a report of my strawberry crop, also of the plants that we received from you this spring. We had a very bad spring on plants, a lot of cold winds and hard frosts, then followed with dry weather. But I have a fairly good stand and they are coming along nicely now, starting to make runners. The 5,000 Premier plants I got from you last year yielded about 9,000 quarts, which is the best yield known around here. We made two gades which sold from 6c to 12c per quart, averaging about 9c. Our best week we picked nearly 4,000 quarts.—Mr. Eli Yoder.

1100 QUARTS FROM 1000 PLANTS

Carroll Co., Virginia, April 5, 1934.—I am enclosing an order for 1400 more Strawberry plants, 1000 Premier and 200 each of Big Joe and Chesapeake. Last year I picked 240 measured gallons from the 1000 Premier plants bought of you the spring before last. They were the finest berries I ever saw. Besides the 240 gallons we ate berries for table use for a period of almost five weeks. In all there must have been 275 gallons.J—Mr. F. E. DeHaven.

MAY EXPECT ORDER IN SPRING

Lehigh Co., Penna., October 8, 1933.—The plants we received from you have turned out wonderful. We planted 9,000 bought from you on April 18th, 1933. Due to unfavorable weather they were not planted until ten days later, April 28, 1933. We have been growing strawberries for the last ten years but the plants we received from you were the nicest and best rooted young plants that we have had during that time. This is the first year that we are trying the Blakemore and Aberdeen and we are pleased to say that we have never seen two varieties that make so many nice young plants. We are very well satisfied and know that you can expect an order from us in the spring.—Mr. L. J. Shoemaker, Mgr.

BEAUTIFUL BEDS

Hunterdon Co., New Jersey, August 20, 1934.—Enclosed please find an order for Chesapeake strawberry plants. I would like to plant them now for next year. Last spring I planted some Premier and Aberdeen which I ordered from you and I am glad to say they did very well and have formed beautiful beds already. I hope to have the same good luck with these too.—Miss Mary Ott.

VERY GOOD CONDITION

Mercer Co., Penna., April 18, 1934.—Received the plants Monday in very good condition. Set them out Tuesday and they certainly look fine.—Mr. Victor J. Schaller.

Beautiful Beds 5½ Months Old.

Berks Co., Pa.,
October 4,1933.

Rayner Brothers
Salisbury, Maryland
Dear Sirs:

My fine stand of strawberry plants are now 5½ months old, looks like a year old patch and they were grown without an ounce of fertilizer. The plants were received fresh and bright and when planted, started right off to growing without even wilting.

I think your plants are superior to plants costing twice as much.

Yours truly,
D. B. Weaver

BIG JOE - A REAL BERRY

Much as Premier has been the leading early berry so has Big Joe been the leading mid-season and as with Premier, Big Joe's leadership has been fairly won. A real leader in size, quality and flavor, in its ability to produce heavily under adverse conditions. Against Big Joe is only one weakness, its lack of resistance to late frosts. If it were not for this one point, Big Joe would be as near a perfect mid-season variety as any grower could wish for.

GROWTH—Big Joe makes an abundant plant growth, plants are strong and vigorous with exceptionally healthy foliage.The fruit stalks are strong and upstanding.

SIZE—The berries are large to very large, of slightly flat conic shape, very regular. There is a slight tendency to run down in size toward the end of the season under dry weather conditions but even then the berries are of a good marketable size, thus the entire crop will bring top prices.

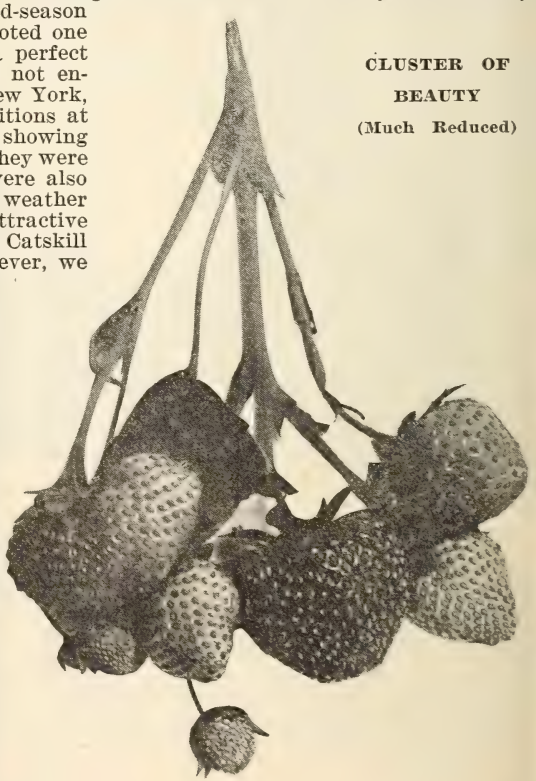
QUALITY AND FLAVOR—The quality of Big Joe is very good, the flavor fine and full bodied. It has a pleasant tang all its own that is really delicious. The color is a medium light red clear through, that is slow to turn dark after picking.

FIRMNESS—The fruit is fairly firm, more so than Premier but not as firm as Chesapeake or Dorsett, although it is firm enough for long distant shipment, and this, coupled with its flavor and quality make it an ideal home, local market or commercial variety.

PRODUCTIVENESS—Under favorable conditions Big Joe is a very heavy producer and under adverse conditions they will make a good paying crop. The only thing that will hold Big Joe down is a late frost, therefore, we recommend them for sections where late frosts are not the rule.

Senator Dunlap (Dr. Burrell). A good home garden and canning variety of long standing. For many years very popular in the north and central states. We do not recommend them south of the Mason-Dixon line. The plants are very hardy and vigorous and are the most freely bedding variety we have, with the possible exception of Blakemore. The plants are small and should not be permitted to become too thick in the row. A very heavy producer of medium sized, dark red fruit of fair quality. The greatest advantage of Dunlap is its ability to make a good growth and produce heavily under almost any condition.

Catskill A New York Station seedling. We have been watching this variety closely for the past two years,The plant growth is very clean and vigorous,, comparable in this respect to Dorsett and Fairfax. The fruit is very large, of good quality and flavor although not up to Chesapeake, Dorsett or Fairfax. In 1933 we were deeply impressed by the productiveness, the great health and vigor of the foliage. We believed this variety would surely replace Big Joe, Aberdeen and the other mid-season varieties in a very short time, however, we noted one weakness, the fruit seemed rather soft for a perfect commercial variety. Reports this year were not encouraging, under dry conditions at Geneva, New York, they were not very good, under similar conditions at New Haven, Conn., they made a fairly good showing but were not outstanding. At Beltsville, Md., they were somewhat better although conditions there were also very unfavorable. Here under normal to wet weather the yield was very good, size large and of attractive appearance. From these results we conclude Catskill may yet turn out to be a good variety, however, we are not as yet satisfied with it and are not ready to recommend them until we can give it further tests. We have a limited number of plants which we are offering this year for trial only.



CLUSTER OF BEAUTY
(Much Reduced)

Beauty We have been growing this variety for several years. Beauty has always made a strong vigorous growth and produced a good crop of large, light red berries of very good flavor and quality. The berries are very attractive and firm enough for distant shipment, this combined with their high quality and flavor make Beauty a very good all around mid-season variety. They seem more frost resistant than Big Joe and we have never had any frost injury since we have been growing them.

The fruit stalks are strong and upstanding, holding the fruit well off the ground, the foliage too, is very strong and rank and keeps the berries well shaded during the picking season. We have only found one weakness in Beauty, the foliage has a tendency to break down during a very wet fruiting season, it does not break down badly but it doesn't hold up like such varieties as Dorsett, Chesapeake, Joyce or Premier.

JOYCE A comparatively new variety which we introduced in 1931 after having tested it for a number of years. During this time Joyce has never failed to make a good bed nor have they suffered frost damage, and have always produced a paying crop. Although they are not as yet widely planted, they have received nothing but praise in those sections where they have been tried. In all our tests Joyce has always shown exceptional ability to produce and mature a very good crop under extremely wet conditions. This first came to our attention in 1932 when we had a very wet fruiting season. Several varieties we were unable to pick because over half the berries were blistered or decayed, Joyce, in the same field, came through fine, no blister and very little decay, the fruit firm and of good quality.

We had the same experience this spring under similar conditions, the fruit held up well and the foliage showed no signs of breaking down under heavy rains and the soil so wet it was impossible to walk without sinking to your shoe tops. In dry seasons they were not outstanding, however, they produced heavily and over a very long season, fruit holding up well in size and appearance. Owing to their ability to withstand extremely wet conditions we recommend a low, springy situation for best results under all conditions.

The fruit is large, round conic, regular shaped and firm enough for distant shipment and of such quality as to find them much favor for home garden or local market. Color a light red and they do not turn dark after being picked, many growers find this feature valuable as the fruit can be kept for a day or more and still have the appearance of being fresh picked, this is also important on wholesale markets as most buyers consider dark fruit over-ripe..

JOYCE

Up to now we have never had enough plants of this variety to supply the demand, we have increased our plantings and we expect to have plenty of plants to fill all orders this spring. We would like to have every one give this variety a trial as they may be just the mid-season variety you have been looking for.

Fugeima We offered this variety for the first time last year. Our supply of plants was very limited and we were unable to fill all orders for them. We have fruited them for two seasons, in 1933 they made a mighty good showing, the fruit was exceptionally large, twelve selected berries filled a quart basket, the flavor though not outstanding was good and of fine quality. They were very productive and the fruit, though not firm enough for commercial use was sufficiently firm to make a fine variety for home garden or local market and their large size, we were sure, would make them a very good seller.

Last season, under extremely wet conditions they were somewhat disappointing, the fruit did not quite attain the size of the previous year and the continued heavy rains washed out much of the flavor, however, this was also true of almost all other varieties with the exception of Fairfax and Dorsett. Under these conditions the fruit showed little blister or decay and the foliage held up as well as could be expected. Fugiema is a strong grower and makes a fair fruiting bed of strong, healthy plants. Since we have been testing it we have had no late frosts so we cannot say what resistance it has, however, it blooms late for a mid-season variety and we think this will save it from frost injury. From our limited tests we are unable to say just what value this variety has but we believe it very good for local market, roadside stand or the home garden where large size and a showy appearance is desired.

Our supply of these plants is still very limited so if you wish to test them this year it will be advisable to get your order in early.

ABERDEEN

Aberdeen Although this variety is steadily gaining popularity in New Jersey and nearby states it is not showing up as well as we had expected. Under normal to wet conditions they will produce a very heavy crop of extra large fruit, in some cases outyielding even Premier, however, the fruit is rather soft and if there are hot suns the berries scald badly.

In dry seasons they fall back below Premier and the foliage, though very resistant to disease, does not stand up well at picking time and the fruit is not well shaded, thus again there is danger of sun scald if the weather is hot. The fruit is large, very uniform and of light color, which they hold even when very over-ripe. The berries make a very attractive package and on nearby markets often bring a premium over varieties that are superior in flavor and keeping qualities. We have growers in Connecticut, New Jersey, and Massachussets who really like this variety, one grower writes thus: "The Aberdeen is wonderful and has the longest season of any, it would be 100% perfect if it were a little firmer". This particular grower has a roadside stand thus the variety is fine for his purpose. Where the berries can be moved quickly and the hauling distance short. Aberdeen should be a profitable variety, especially where Big Joe is not satisfactory. For their large size, ability to size up the entire crop and for productiveness, Aberdeen cannot be bettered in the mid-season class.

CHESAPEAKE
The Peer of Late Strawberries

Really the finest and most popular of all the late berries, where soil conditions are suitable Chesapeake is the best and the most profitable late berry yet introduced. Although not a free plant maker, on good rich soil they will almost always make a good fruiting bed. The plants are large and vigorous, are responsive to good soil, careful cultivation and EARLY PLANTING.

QUALITY.—Here Chesapeake is a real leader, with a quality and flavor that is unsurpassed. This combined with its other outstanding characteristics make it ideal for all purposes. For the home garden it is fine, delicious to eat right off the vines, the market gardner will find his trade really pleased and enthusiastic over this flavor and dessert quality and as a commercial variety we really believe this outstanding flavor and quality responsible for the great preference of most consumers for late berries. We are expecting Dorsett and Fairfax to do the same for the early market, which will, no doubt, increase the consumption of Strawberries generally.

SIZE.—The berries are large to very large and hold their size well to the end of the season. This is possible through the large vigorous plants, always well spaced in the bed and they never set more fruit than they can size up. This is another reason why Chesapeake is a favorite of the consumer.

FIRMNESSS.—Chesapeake is an excellent shipping berry. The fruit is firm as any late variety including Lupton. For commercial growers this is very important as the condition of the fruit when it reaches the market, always is an important factor in the price received. With Chesapeake's firmness and good keeping qualities, top prices are the rule for this variety on the large wholesale markets.

PRODUCTIVENESS.—As a late variety Chesapeake is very productive. Although they do not set an abundance of fruit, as some varieties do, they set plenty to produce a mighty fine crop of large marketable berries which practically all size up, right to the last picking.

GROWTH.—To get a good fruiting bed Chesapeake should be set in rich, well manured soil, they respond to good cultivation and the soil should be stirred around them often during the growing season. The foliage is strong and healthy, very resistant to leaf spot and other foliage troubles, holding up well until the whole crop is harvested. Chesapeake blooms very late and by so doing escapes late frosts, much as Premier does through its resistance and abundance of bloom.

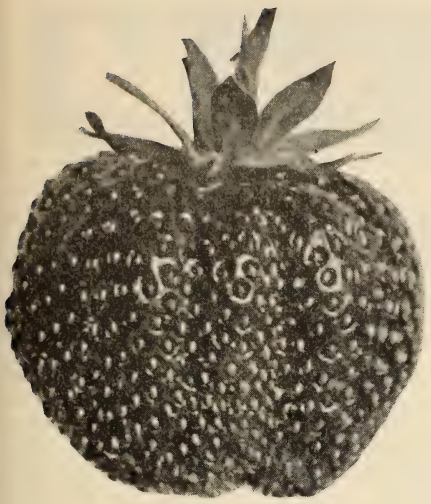
OTHER LATE VARIETIES

Brandywine An old and once popular variety, however, we believe many of the newer varieties are superior in productiveness, quality and disease resistance. Fruit is medium large, dark red and of good quality, but as the foliage quite often rusts at fruiting time Brandywine sometimes fails to size up satisfactorily. If you have grown this variety and like it, we will be glad to furnish you plants, if not, we recommend Chesapeake, Wm. Belt, Aroma or Lupton.

Gibson (PARSONS BEAUTY). An old and popular home garden or canning berry, is widely planted in many sections of the country. Very productive of medium large, dark fruit of fine flavor, that cap easily and retain their shape well in canning. Too soft for long distance shipping. The plants are vigorous and healthy, making a fine fruiting bed. The number of times it has been introduced under different names is proof of its worth, having been introduced as Parsons Beauty, Gibson, Sussex and Pocomoke.

Aroma A very good late shipping berry, plants are vigorous and thrifty. Fruit is very firm and can be shipped long distances with the assurance they will arrive at their destination in first class condition. As appearance is really the most important feature in a commercial variety, Aroma is ideal. They are very productive of large, smooth, fine quality, light red fruit that size up well to the end of the season. Aroma has been and still is, a real money maker in many sections.

Big Late This is the only imperfect variety we list and if it were not for Big Late's outstanding qualities, we would discontinue it, as we consider the trouble of cross pollenizing just a nuisance as there must be two or three rows of a perfect flowering variety and three or four rows of the imperfect. Or the two varieties planted in the same row, and if this is done it is impossible to keep the varieties separate when picking. Then too, if there is a lot of rain when the blooms are setting there is sure to be some sterility as there are few insects traveling to carry the pollen. Big Late makes a very vigorous upright growth, the fruit is of good size, fine in flavor and quality, a bright shiny red, that gives the fruit the appearance of having been varnished. Firm. Big Late is fine for home garden, local market or distant shipment. Blooms fairly late and as the blossoms are above the leaves they pollenize better than most imperfect varieties. Mate well with Big Joe or Aroma. If conditions are favorable Big Late will produce a very heavy crop of fancy fruit, however, they are more susceptible to weather and soil conditions than some of the more popular late varieties.



WM. BELT

Wm. Belt A fine old variety that is a friend to both the producer and the consumer, a vigorous grower, a heavy producer and the leader in quality of fruit for late varieties. The fruit is large and a bright glossy red with a vivid green cap and although they are irregular in shape (many coxcomb) they make a very attractive package. This attractiveness makes the first sale and the high quality of the fruit gets the repeat orders. For the market gardener or for the growers who place quality equal to large size and handsome appearance, we recommend Wm. Belt. The plants are of good size and are dependable plant makers, making a well spaced fruiting row. As Wm. Belt is subject to rust in the southern states we recommend them for the middle and Northern sections. Our stock of Wm. Belt plants is very good this year and the plants were never nicer.

Lupton As a late shipping variety Lupton is very hard to equal. The plants are strong, vigorous and free plant makers on all types of soil. We recommend this variety especially where it is hard to get a satisfactory bed of Chesapeake. Lupton is very productive of large glossy red fruit with an attractive green cap. The outward appearance of the fruit is very similar to Chesapeake, is very firm and ships well but the flavor is mild and the texture dry and mealy, therefore, Lupton is unsuitable for home garden, local market or for those who are building up their own retail trade. First grown in New Jersey, Lupton is steadily gaining popularity in Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and other nearby states.

VERY LATE VARIETIES

Pearl This, we believe, is the best extra late variety, with us this past season, they made a very good showing. With the extremely wet weather the foliage held up well, showing no scorch or leaf spot, the calyx were perfect, fruit of very good size and through the whole picking season the amount of blistered or decayed fruit was almost neglible. As a whole this variety is very similar to Gandy. Both are of the same season, Pearl is slightly more vigorous and is more productive. We checked these two varieties in adjoining rows and the Pearl produced over 20% more marketable fruit than Gandy. The fruit too, is very similar, averaging fairly large, light red, round conic, very uniform, flavor slightly acid but not enough to be objectionable. As is true of all very late berries it is always best to plant them on springy, moist soil. For best results Pearl should be well fertilized in the spring before growth starts in order that they may mature their whole crop of fruit. A fertilizer containing a liberal amount of Phosphoric Acid, some Nitrogen and no Potash, is our recommendation. As Pearl is a prolific plant maker, thinning is sometimes advisable when planting on rich soil or weather conditions are very favorable.

Wyona We have not fruited this variety but from our observations and from information we have obtained regarding it, there is only one feature that is outstanding and that is its lateness. Under normal conditions the fruiting season begins a week later than Gandy of which it is a seedling. The fruit is of good size, uniform and well formed. Fairly productive. We recommend Wyona only to those who have springy soil that will retain moisture well or to those who feel they have an exceptionally good market for a very late berry.

Gandy Long recognized as the leading extra late berry, fruit is medium large, firm and attractive, slightly acid. Very productive under favorable conditions. For those who have moist springy soil it is a profitable variety. Should be well fertilized for best results. Blooms very late, escaping late frosts. Plants vigorous and good plant makers, thinning sometimes necessary on very rich soil.

LUPTON

Are The Everbearers of Value to You?

In many cases the Mastodon and other everbearers have been advertised to be far more than their actual value, were claimed to be the sure road to luxury and wealth. These are not the facts, because of the natural weather conditions during the summer and early fall the results are not comparable with those of the standard varieties, however, many growers have gone in heavily for Mastodon expecting a summer and fall crop equal to the spring crop. Failing to get this they immediately decided all everbearers were worthless. In this they were wrong, their soil may have been unsuitable or possibly they were expecting altogether too much from the everbearers.

There are many places where the everbearers are more valuable than any of the standard varieties. There is a real need for them in every home garden, especially where space is limited, then too, even when one has plenty of room, it is a great treat to have berries for the table all through the summer and fall. It's real fun too, to be able to go out in the garden in September or October and pick two or three quarts of berries for dinner and besides the fun, there will be a good slice taken off the weekly grocery bill too.

The everbearers usually begin ripening about August 1st and continue to fruit until hard freezing weather in the late fall. The berries ripen steadily all during this time and although each picking will seem light, the total berries picked over this long period is really surprising. We know many growers who have been growing everbearers since the introduction of Mastodon on a pretty large scale with very good success, however, these growers have some natural advantages, nearby markets where the fruit could be sold at good prices and rich moist soil that contains plenty of humus, thus they have good yields of large, high quality fruit.

By growing Mastodon these growers are assured of a heavy spring crop that will return as much profit as most any of the standard mid-season varieties. This really takes about all the risk out of growing everbearers in a commercial way. If for any reason the summer and fall crop should fail, you still have the spring crop and when both are good, you realize a double profit that may run up to $1,000.00 per acre. If you do not have a good nearby market or if your soil is not suitable for them we would not advise you to grow everbearers except for home garden, but if you have these two essentials we believe they will return more profit than any variety you can grow.

There are three methods for growing everbearers, namely the hill system, the matted row and the limited bed system. For heaviest yield during the summer and fall the hill system is the best. In this method all the runners are kept cut off, making large individual plants, thus all the energy of the plant goes into the production of the fruit instead of making runners. By this system the blossoms are more easily pollenated and the berries large and perfect. A yield of one quart per plant during the summer and fall is sometimes produced by this system, however, this is far above the average. Set plants 15 inches in the rows 2 to 2½ feet apart.

The Matted Row—For this system the first runners are encouraged to take root and the plants permitted to bed until a matted row 12 to 15 inches wide is set. Under this system the fall crop will be light if there is not an abundance of rain. Set plants every 15 inches in rows 3½ to 4 feet apart.

Limited Bed—For this method plants are set 15 inches apart in rows 2½ to 3½ feet apart. Each plant is permitted to set two or three runner plants after which all runners are kept off as in the hill system. We have found this method most satisfactory for both fall and spring production.

DORSETT AND FAIRFAX MAKE GOOD IN WASHINGTON

Yakima Co., Washington, August 2, 1934.—I am wondering how the prospects are for plants this next spring. The drought probably has not touched that far east. I am interested especially in Dorsett and Fairfax. I had a few of these to fruit this spring. Neither is as early here as Premier by 5 or 6 days, but both are firmer and of such superior quality and flavor that they might be preferable. Thanking you for your promptness in shipping last spring and for any reply you can make regarding next spring.—Charles F. Morrison, Mgr.

VERY NICE PLANTS

Middlesex Co., N. J., April 24, 1934.—I received my plants Saturday, and opened them up to heel in dirt over Sunday. They are very nice plants and am well pleased. Yours for success.—Mrs. Edward Ginter.

WOULD PAY MORE FOR RAYNER'S PLANTS

Westmoreland Co., Penna., April 18, 1934.—I received your plants on Monday, April 15th, and they were in very fine condition. I would be willing to pay more for plants like yours. You should see my patch, when I need more plants I will order from you.—Tom Ansell.

MASTODON

The variety that set a new standard for everbearers and took them from the novelty class to a real commercial type. Furthermore, Mastodon, with its heavy spring crop, took much of the risk out of growing everbearers. For firmness, productiveness, size of fruit, vigor and adaptability it is unequalled. Some varieties may equal it in some ways but for all around commercial value there is no variety that compares with it. Since its introduction many growers place Mastodon as one of their most important varieties, as by planting a portion of their berry field to Mastodon, they have a cash crop coming in during the summer and fall that with favorable weather and marketing conditions will offset the expense of the entire project. Below are given Mastodon's outstanding qualities that make it the supreme everbearer.

NICE CLUSTER OF MASTODON (Greatly Reduced)

GROWTH—Most everbearers have a much weaker growth than the standard varieties, thus it is impossible for them to produce heavily, even in the spring, in this Mastodon is radically different. The growth is very strong and vigorous, a clear dark green, very resistant to leaf spot. Good foliage, while very important in a standard variety, is doubly important in an everbearer. First in shading the fruit from the hot suns during the summer and fall, then in developing and protecting a heavy spring crop. Mastodon has a full measure of all the inborn qualities necessary for heavy production.

SIZE—For the summer and fall crop the berries are medium to medium large, often running to large under favorable conditions. The spring crop is large to very large, the berries averaging about the same as Big Joe in size, ripening in mid-season.

QUALITY AND FLAVOR—During July and early August, under high temperatures, the quality and flavor is often rather poor, but as it becomes cooler, both improve very quickly. From the middle of August until hard freezing weather in the fall, the quality is very good and the flavor good. The spring crop is excellent, better than many of the standard varieties.

FIRMNESS—The berries are firm enough to withstand shipment for moderate distances. We do not recommend shipment of over 100 miles for the summer and fall fruit. The spring crop will compare favorably with Big Joe. We really believe it best for a grower to retail the summer and fall berries, the demand is always good, the berries come on steadily over a long period, thus there is no rush as with the spring berries and besides getting the maximum profit from the crop, he is building up a trade that will be of great value to him in marketing his spring berries.

PRODUCTIVENESS—As compared with the other everbearers Mastodon will rank very productive during the summer and fall and in spring production is even more outstanding, they simply outclass all other everbearers, equaling many of the standard mid-season varieties. If Mastodon were not an everbearer, it would be very valuable just for the spring crop, and this, coupled with its everbearing ability, makes it a really valuable variety indeed. For heaviest summer and fall production the hill system is the best, for heaviest spring yield the matted row is the best and for maximum yield in both summer-fall and spring let each plant produce two or three runner plants keeping all runners off after these are developed. Full details of these methods are given on the preceeding page.

Lucky Strike .A good everbearer for home garden or local market, has a somewhat better flavor than Mastodon but the fruit is not as large nor as firm but it is much larger than Champion. Makes plants very freely and is a vigorous grower, a persistent yielder all through the summer and fall. The spring crop is not as heavy as Mastodon. Some growers prefer it to Mastodon because of its better flavor and to Champion because of its larger size.

Champion The everbearer with a real wild strawberry flavor. The fruit is small but is very sweet and full flavored, a dark glossy red, attractive in spite of its small size. For the the home garden, where size is not important Champion is ideal. A good producer all during the summer and fall. The spring crop is poor. If you prefer quality to large size Champion will meet your requirements.

PROGRESSIVE—Same description as Champion.

WORTHWHILE SUGGESTIONS

PLANTING—Early spring is the best and the most successful time to set strawberry plants. Do not neglect spring planting expecting to plant during the late summer or fall, with equal success.

PLANT EARLY—You may plant your berry patch in your best soil, using the very best plants, fertilize properly and cultivate and hoe at just the right time, but if you do not **plant early** you will fail to get the full results from this otherwise correct culture. We cannot impress you too strongly with the importance of **early planting.**

SOIL SELECTION—Strawberries are one of the best paying crops. Give them a chance by selecting a good piece of ground that contains plenty of humus, holds moisture well and has good drainage. Use your best soil, it pays.

SELECTING VARIETIES—Select heavy producing varieties of large, high quality fruit which are adapted to your section and requirements. Planting such varieties as will extend your season over a long period. Following are a list of some of the better varieties: Early—Dorsett, Fairfax, highest quality, excellent shippers; Premier, fine quality fair shipper; Blakemore, best for the South; Southland, for the Southern home garden. Mid-Season—Big Joe, fine quality, good shipper; Joyce, light in color, firm, productive; Aberdeen, very productive, for nearby market. Late — Chesapeake, best late, fine quality, very good shipper; Lupton, good shipper, poor quality; Wm. Belt, excellent quality, for Northern section. Where it is desirable to extend the season longer one of the very late varieties may be grown, provided your soil is suitable. Gandy, Pearl, Mastodon, best everbearer, good spring cropper.

It is best before planting heavily of a new variety to determine its adapability to your soil and market.

FALSE ECONOMY—Often in trying to cut down expenditures a grower loses many times over what he actually saves. Don't continue to grow old, unproductive varieties just because you have them. Then, before digging plants from your fruiting bed consider the fruit these plants would have produced, the time and labor necessary to dig them, the short, coarse roots they will likely have and the delay in planting while you are getting your plants ready. Then, too, a change of climate will always have a very invigorating effect. If you are following this practice and the results seem to be fairly satisfactory, just order a few plants from some reliable nursery to compare with your own. We are very sure you will find that all the time and labor you have spent in digging and cleaning plants has been worse than wasted. Give this a trial anyway.

REMOVING BLOSSOMS—This should never be neglected. If the plants are permitted to fruit the year set they will be greatly weakened and the next season's crop materially reduced. On everbearers the blossoms should be kept off until the plants are well established.

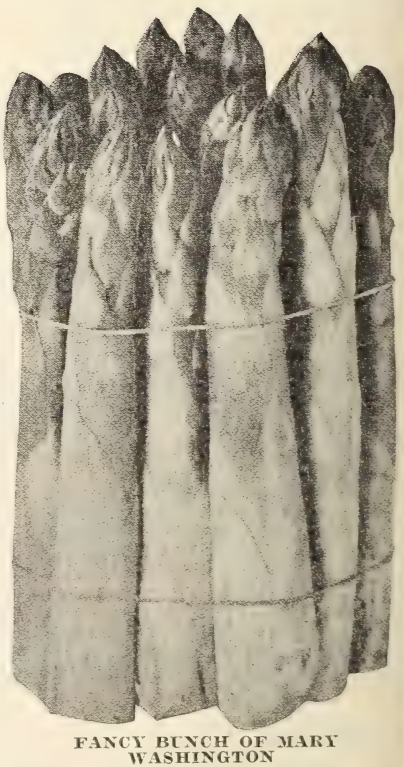
MARKETING—Market carefully and wisely that you may realize the maximum returns from your labor and investment. See page 3.

Asparagus

Asparagus is one of the most valuable of the early vegetables. It is healthful and palatable both as a fresh vegetable and canned product. Crowns should be set as early in the spring as the ground can be worked. Good one year old roots will give best results but the two year roots will produce stalks large enough for cutting the second year and quite a fair crop the third.

The soil should be as thoroughly prepared for asparagus as for any other crop. Light loamy soil will give best results. Plow out furrows from 6 to 8 inches deep, setting the roots from 12 to 15 inches apart in the row the roots well spread out. For garden purposes rows 3½ feet apart are advisable but in commercial plantings rows 4 to 5 feet apart will be more satisfactory. It should be covered about 3 inches when first planted and as the shoots begin to grow the ground should be worked to them until it is level. Cultivation should begin soon after the crowns are planted and continued throughout the season at intervals frequent enough to keep down weeds. Filling in the furrows during the season will keep down most of the weeds in the row.

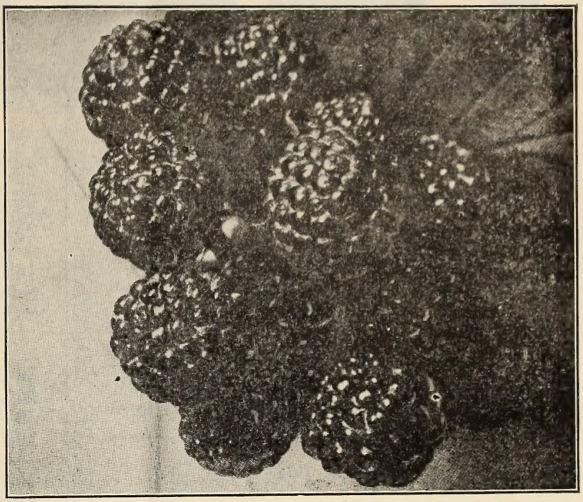
Asparagus draws most heavily on plant food when it is making top growth and restoring reserve food in the fleshy roots, thus it is best to fertilize or broadcast good stable manure just after the cutting season. Be sure to use a complete fertilizer high in nitrogen, applied at the rate of 1,000 to 1,800 lbs. per acre.



FANCY BUNCH OF MARY WASHINGTON

MARY WASHINGTON — Considered by commercial growers as the best and most profitable of the Washington strain. This variety is considered the best rust resistant variety on the market, of high commercial quality. Superior to any other variety on earliness, vigor of growth and size and quality of shoots. They are also more uniform in size, shape and color than any of the old varieties and are very productive of large spears. Price list page 23.

Raspberries



CUMBERLAND, THE POPULAR BLACK CAP

Raspberries are profitable and easily grown, and will undoubtedly fit into your program nicely. Select a good piece of ground, that is slightly elevated, prepare the soil thoroughly as for other truck crops, do not set in sod land. It is advisable to spread the land with manure before planting. Spring planting is considered best in most sections. For hill system the usual distance to plant is 5 ft. by 5 ft. If the hedge system is desired, plant 3 ft. apart in rows which are 5 to 7 feet distant. Before planting the tops should be cut back to 6 inches or less, the plants should be set slightly deeper than they formerly grew. Cultivate frequently enough to retain moisture and kill weeds, but be sure not to cultivate over 2 or 3 inches deep next to the plants as deeper cultivation may cause serious damage. After the fruiting season remove all fruiting canes, cutting them close to the ground and burning them, this will help prevent disease and greatly aid the new growth. Do not allow over 8 or 10 canes to grow to the plant, remove all weak canes and suckers, so as to throw all the strength into the young bearing canes. Topping canes in the early spring will strengthen the canes and aid in picking. Raspberries respond readily to fertile soil, and sufficient fertilizer or manure should be used to keep your soil in good fertile condition.

CUTHBERT (Red). Berries are large, conical, deep rich crimson, good quality, and heavy producer. Very good shipper, makes a tall growth that may need support. Will do well in a large range of soil types. Resistant to wilt diseases.

LATHAM (Red). This new variety has proven its merit as being the leader in all red raspberries. It is a very heavy producer of large uniform berries, a very attractive red in color, being unusually firm, with very good shipping qualities. Its proven ability for heavy production of high quality fruit has placed it as the most profitable red raspberry.

CHIEF (Red). This new early variety is a strong rival to Latham, having out-produced them in a few tests, it ripens about 10 days earlier. You will have a heavy producing berry patch by planting Chief for early, and Latham for mid-season. Growth is hardiest of all varieties, very vigorous and productive. Berries a good size, of even better quality than the Latham, a beautiful bright red, and firm enough to stand long shipments.

ST. REGIS (Everbearing Red). The most profitable of the everbearers. Fruit is bright red, of good size and quality. Fruiting season is very long, fruiting on the old canes until late August, then the young ones will begin bearing, and will continue until late frosts. Makes a hardy growth which is resistant to virus diseases.

CUMBERLAND (Black). This variety has been the favorite with many growers, being more widely planted than any other black raspberry because of its productiveness, and high des sert quality. Berries are very large and firm, ripens in mid-season. Makes a very hardy growth.

NEW LOGAN (Black). A new early variety that is very resistant to all virus diseases. It is a very heavy producer of large handsome black berries that hold their size and firmness well throughout the season. Ripens about a week ahead of Cumberland, all berries ripen in a short period, thus you will have heavy pickings instead of slight pickings over a long season. A very hardy grower of long canes, that will probably do best if topped in early spring.

PRICE LIST OF QUALITY RASPBERRY PLANTS

	25	50	100	500	1000
Cuthbert (red)	$ .90	$1.75	$2.30	$10.00	$18.00
Latham (red)	.90	1.75	2.30	10.00	18.50
Chief (red)	.95	1.80	2.40	10.50	19.00
St. Regis (Everbearing)	.95	1.80	2.40	10.50	19.00
Cumberland (black)	.85	1.30	1.80	8.00	15.00
New Logan (black)	.95	1.75	2.30	10.00	18.50

The above prices are f.o.b. Salisbury, Maryland.

Garden Specials

Home Garden

Everyone should have a Berry Garden. With a little effort, one may have delicious, fresh berries right from the vines, daily through a long season and by planting some everbearers you can have them all summer and fall. Order 200 to 500 plants today; this many if given proper care will produce all the berries you can use fresh, have plenty to preserve and probably you will have several quarts to sell to your neighbors, who will always be more than glad to get them.

Garden No. 4

New Variety Special

100 CLERMONT (New Early)
100 FAIRFAX (New Early)
100 DORSETT (New Early)
100 CATSKILL (New Mid-Season)
100 JOYCE (New Mid--Season)
100 WYONA (New Very Late)

600 Plants. Catalogue price $6.40
Special Test Price, prepaid $5.50

Garden No. 1

25 PREMIER (Early)
25 BIG JOE (Mid-Season)
25 CHESAPEAKE (Late)
25 MASTODON (Everbearing)

100 Plants. Catalogue Price $1.20
Special Price, postpaid - - $1.00

Garden No. 2

50 FAIRFAX (Early)
50 JOYCE (Mid-Season)
50 WM. BELT (Late)
100 MASTODON (Everbearing)

250 Plants. Catalogue Price $2.50
Special Price, postpaid - - $2.00

Garden No. 3

100 DORSETT (Early)
100 ABERDEEN (Mid-Season)
100 CHESAPEAKE (Late)
100 WM. BELT (Late)
100 MASTODON (Everbearing)

500 Plants. Catalogue Price $3.80
Special Price, postpaid - - $3.00

Instructions to Purchasers

TIME TO ORDER—As soon as convenient after receiving this catalogue. Late in the season we may be out of some varieties, but if you order early, plants will be reserved until you are ready for them. Be sure to PLANT EARLY.

TIME OF SHIPMENT—From October 1st to May 1st. All orders filled after May 1st will be at purchaser's risk. We will use every precaution in our power to put the plants through in good condition.

PAYMENT—Cash with order, Money Order, Registered Letter, or Personal Check. Or one-fourth cash with order and balance before date of shipment.

REFERENCES—The Farmers & Merchants Bank, Salisbury, Md., Dun & Bradstreet.

GUARANTEE—100% satisfaction or your money back. Claims, if any, must be made within 15 days after receipt of goods. We cannot be responsible for flood, drought, insects or other conditions over which we have no control.

TRUE-TO-NAME—We use every precaution to have our plants true-to-name. Should any prove otherwise we will replace them or refund the purchase price, but at no time will we be responsible for any sum greater than that paid for the stock.

SHIPMENT — (Express).. Express rates on strawberry plants have been reduced 25 to 40% when shipped to the following states:

Alabama	Michigan
Connecticut	New Hampshire
Delaware	New Jersey
District of Columbia	New York
Florida	North Carolina
Georgia	Ohio
Illinois	Pennsylvania
Indiana	South Carolina
Kentucky	Tennessee
Maine	Virginia
Maryland	Vermont
Massachussets	West Virginia
Mississippi	Wisconsin

If you live in one of these states you will find it much cheaper to have all orders of 500 or over shipped by Express.

(Parcel Post). On all orders under 500 Parcel Post is generally cheaper. Postage rates are given below. Be sure to send enough postage or plants will be sent C.O.D. for balance, any excess postage will be returned. If you do not know your Zone ask your Postmaster.

Safe Delivery Guaranteed on All Shipments Until May 1st.

PARCEL POST RATES

	Zones 1-2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5	Zone 6	Zone 7	Zone 8
100 Plants.	$0.12	$0.15	$0.21	$0.27	$0.33	$0.41	$0.48
200 Plants	.16	.23	.35	.49	.61	.77	.92
300 Plants	.21	.31	.49	.70	.89	1.13	1.36
400 Plants	.25	.39	.63	.91	1.17	1.49	1.80
500 Plants	.29	.47	.77	1.12	1.45	1.85	2.24
600 Plants	.34	.55	.91	1.33	1.73	2.21	2.68
700 Plants	.38	.63	1.05	1.55	2.01	2.57	3.12
800 Plants	.43	.71	1.19	1.76	2.29	2.93	3.56
900 Plants	.47	.79	1.33	1.97	2.57	3.29	4.00
1000 Plants	.51	.87	1.47	2.18	2.85	3.65	4.44

NOTICE!

Correction in Prices:

5000 MASTODON	$30.00
5000 DORSETT	$26.25
5000 FAIRFAX	$26.25

PRICE LIST OF QUALITY PLANTS

We honestly believe we can give you greater value in plants and service than any other established nursery. This means when you order from Rayner Brothers you are sure of receiving plants of the very best Quality, Prompt Efficient Service at prices that represent a substantial Saving. It is upon our ability to Please that we base our request for your orders.

Prices quoted are f.o.b. Salisbury, Maryland.

	25	50	100	200	300	400	1000	5000
Early								
BLAKEMORE	$ .25	$ .35	$ .65	$1.00	$1.25	$1.45	$3.25	$15.00
CLERMONT	.50	.90	1.50	2.50	3.40	4.20	10.00	
DORSETT	.30	.45	.80	1.40	1.90	2.40	5.75	27.50
FAIRFAX	.30	.45	.80	1.40	1.90	2.40	5.75	27.50
HOWARD 17	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
Missionary	.25	.35	.65	1.00	1.25	1.40	3.00	13.75
PREMIER	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
Red Gold	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.30	1.60	3.50	16.25
SOUTHLAND	.30	.45	.80	1.40	1.90	2.40	5.50	26.25
Medium Early								
ABERDEEN	.25	.35	.65	1.00	1.25	1.45	3.25	13.75
BELLMAR	.25	.35	.65	1.00	1.30	1.60	3.50	16.25
Cooper	.25	.35	.65	1.00	1.30	1.60	3.50	16.25
Dr. Burrell	.25	.35	.65	1.00	1.25	1.45	3.25	15.00
Sen. Dunlap	.25	.35	.65	1.00	1.25	1.45	3.25	15.00
Mid-Season								
BEAUTY	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.40	1.70	4.00	18.75
BIG JOE	.25	.40	.65	1.05	1.45	1.85	4.25	20.00
CATSKILL	.50	1.00	1.50	2.50	3.40	4.20	10.00	
Fugiema	1.00	1.50	2.50					
JOYCE	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
Late								
AROMA	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
Big Late (Imperfect)	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
Brandywine	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
CHESAPEAKE	.25	.40	.70	1.10	1.70	2.00	4.75	22.50
Gibson	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
LUPTON	.25	.40	.65	1.05	1.45	1.85	4.25	20.00
Parsons Beauty	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
WM. BELT	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.50	16.75
Very Late								
Gandy	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.70	4.00	18.75
PEARL	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
Wyona	.25	.40	.65	1.00	1.35	1.65	3.75	17.50
Everbearing								
Champion	.30	.45	.80	1.40	1.90	2.30	5.00	23.75
LUCKY STRIKE	.40	.60	1.00	1.60	2.15	2.60	6.00	25.00
MASTODON	.40	.60	1.00	1.60	2.15	2.75	6.75	32.50
Progressie	.30	.45	.80	1.40	1.90	2.30	5.00	23.75
Asparagus Roots								
Mary Washington 1 yr. No. 1	.40	.60	1.00	1.60	2.15	2.50	5.50	25.00
Mary Washington 2 yr. No. 1	.50	.80	1.50	2.25	3.00	3.50	8.00	35.00

500 Plants at the 1000 rate.

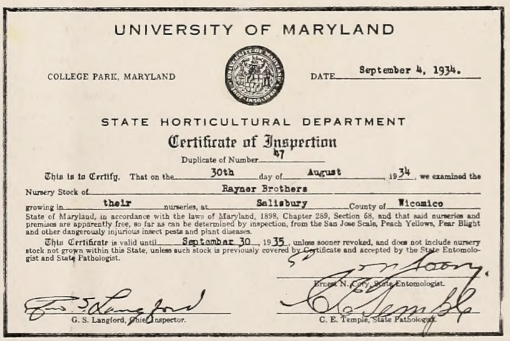
On larger quantities write for special prices.

$1.00

Worth of Plants Free

See Back of Order Sheet

For Particulars



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

DATE September 4, 1934.

STATE HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

Certificate of Inspection

Duplicate of Number 47

This is to Certify. That on the 30th day of August 1934, we examined the Nursery Stock of Rayner Brothers growing in their nurseries, at Salisbury County of Wicomico State of Maryland, in accordance with the laws of Maryland, 1898, Chapter 289, Section 68, and that said nurseries and premises are apparently free, so far as can be determined by inspection, from the San Jose Scale, Peach Yellows, Fear Blight and other dangerously injurious insect pests and plant diseases.

This Certificate is valid until September 30 1935, unless sooner revoked, and does not include nursery stock not grown within the State, unless such stock is previously covered by Certificate and accepted by the State Entomologist and State Pathologist.

Ernest N. Cory, State Entomologist.

G. S. Langford, Field Inspector.

C. E. Temple, State Pathologist.

RAYNER BROTHERS- Salisbury, Maryland